



*News From*

# **Maggie Brooks**

## *Monroe County Executive*

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **BROOKS AND ZOO OFFICIALS UNVEIL SPECIAL VISITORS AREA AT ELEPHANT EXHIBIT**

*Time Warner Cable Elephant Atrium Lets  
Visitors Interact with the Elephants*

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks today joined officials from the Seneca Park Zoo Society, Seneca Park Zoo and Terence Rafferty, Time Warner Cable Rochester Division President to unveil the new *Time Warner Cable Elephant Atrium* at the Elephant Exhibit.

*"We are thrilled to cut the ribbon on this impressive viewing atrium, which allows visitors an up close and personal look at the elephants," said Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks**. "It provides shelter from the weather year-round and allows visitors to get a true sense of the 'elephant experience'. I thank Time Warner Cable for their sponsorship of the viewing atrium and for their support of our community's Zoo. I also applaud Rachel Baker August and the Seneca Park Zoo Society. Their partnership with the County enables us to raise private dollars and therefore reduce the need to spend local taxpayer dollars on projects like this that enhance our Zoo, promote education and benefit our community."*

The Elephant Exhibit opened in April of this year. In an effort to provide a year-round opportunity for visitors to interact with the elephants, the 1,000 square foot, glass-enclosed viewing atrium was recently completed. The *Time Warner Cable Elephant Atrium* boasts a manufactured thatch roofing material creating an African theme for this area of the Zoo. The windows on the elephant barn have been removed, allowing visitors to enjoy the full "elephant experience" including the sights, sounds and aroma of the elephants. In addition, landscaping around the yard has also been completed.

*"The Zoo is an important part of the fabric of our community, as it promotes education and provides fun for all ages. Time Warner Cable is pleased to be partnering with the Seneca Park Zoo in an effort to help expand its exciting development and growth plans, while at the same time being able to offer certain incentives to Time Warner Cable customers who sign up for a Zoo membership," said **Terence Rafferty**, Time Warner Cable Rochester Division President.*

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## **Elephant Exhibit Viewing Atrium**

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*“The viewing atrium truly enhances the visitor experience by providing the opportunity to hear, see and even smell the unique African elephants. Many members of the community, from Time Warner Cable to children who have given the proceeds from their lemonade stands, have committed their support by donating their time and money to strengthen this vital community resource,”* said **Rachel Baker August**, Seneca Park Zoo Society Executive Director.

The building of the Elephant Exhibit, including the viewing atrium, provided 75 local construction jobs. Brooks thanked the local firms involved in the construction of the viewing atrium: Stantec (Design), The Nichols Team (General Contractor), Monroe Piping and Sheet Metal (HVAC) and Crosby-Brownlie (Electrical).

The final piece of the Elephant Exhibit will be the Elephant Splash Pool. The Seneca Park Zoo Society’s “Experience Great Things” community campaign seeks to raise \$250,000 to help fund the pool, which will further enhance the visitor experience and also enhance the quality of life for Genny C. and Lilac. More information on the campaign, including an online donation form, is available at [www.ExperienceGreatThings.org](http://www.ExperienceGreatThings.org).

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